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California State Senate

SENATOR
ANTHONY CANNELLA
TWELFTH SENATE DISTRICT



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AND WATER

June 20, 2011

Mr. Trevor Joseph, Project Manager
California Department of Water Resources
DIRWM, Financial Assistance Branch
P. O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Joseph,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Project and to urge approval of the Department's draft recommendation to fund the Round 1, FY 2010-11 Implementation Grant.

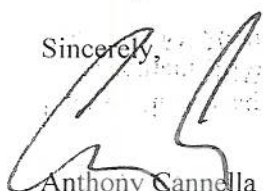
The Greater Monterey County IRWM reflects an expansion and collaboration among water stakeholders in the region, all committed to improving water conservation, quality and fair distribution to disadvantaged communities.

One of my top priorities is ensuring an affordable, equitable and sustainable water supply for local residents, businesses and farms for a strong economy and healthy environment. The San Jerardo Waste Water Project would provide safe water to the residents of the San Jerardo Cooperative who are currently threatened by nitrate contamination in their drinking water. The Soledad Recycled Water Project would provide farmers and recreation areas with recyclable water instead of potable water. The Integrated Ecosystem Restoration of Elkhorn Slough would restore up to 90 acres of salt marsh in order to provide more habitable land and flood protection projects.

I am pleased that the City of Soledad—the lead agency in this regional effort—has received a draft recommendation for funding. I urge you to approve their request for funding so that this landmark project can begin. While the recommended grant is for 85% of the Project's costs, I would sincerely appreciate the Department's consideration to provide the remaining 15% of costs.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Anthony Cannella
State Senator, 12th District